

## Minutes, Standing Committee on Rules, July 11, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by the Chair. Members present were: Michael Berardi, Joel Winett, Archie Lyon, Teri Banerjee and Don Chute. Ed Noonan, the Moderator was a visitor.

There was a motion by Joel Winett and second by Archie Lyon to accept the Minutes of June 6, 2005. The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

### Old Business

A. Rules and Procedures-a draft of this year's version was presented and after some discussion and suggested changes, Joel Winett made a motion and second by Don Chute to table until next meeting to vote on final version. The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

### B. Review of Annual Town Meeting

- Information Table-went well, Bernice does a wonderful job maintain the table. There was some concern about background and backup material not containing pertinent information such as; article number, article sponsor and name of author of the information.
- Amendment –on –the-fly- how to deal large number of motions and amendments and how to present them to town meeting so that they are understood. TMM had difficulty matching the comments of the Planning Board to the amendments they were referring to.
- Motion to divide the question-the Moderator makes the decision on whether to accept a motion to divide the question.
- Motion to “adjourn to a date certain” the Moderator wants to keep the “date certain” as part of the motion.
- Motion to table must be voted on before a motion to adjourn can be made.
- Motion to table can be done in two ways: table to a date certain or just table.

### C. Topics for the new committee.

- Finance and Capital Budget Committee vacancies-FinCom has 1 vacancy, Capital Budget Comm. is full, Government Study Comm. has 2 vacancies, and he hopes to fill all vacancies by the fall.
- Election of Moderator- elected by town-wide election or by town meeting. The Moderator spoke about attending a Town Moderator conference and when asked the moderators present said that it was 50/50 about half were elected for a three year term and the rest for one year term. Mr. Noonan would prefer town wide elections for a term of three years instead of the one year term we now have.
- A Town Meeting Member on the Finance Committee- the Moderator opposes this idea because he feels that the FinCom is advisory to town meeting and needs to maintain its independence.
- Public meeting on town meeting issues- no action taken.
- Electronic voting at town meeting-it is still being looked at with the Technology Advisory Committee, a member of that committee was supposed to attend our meeting but failed to appear.

### New Business

- There will be no meeting in August, the next meeting will be September 12, 2005
- There was a motion by Joel Winett and second by Michael Berardi to have the Clerk send a letter to the precinct chair whose precincts have no representation on the Rules Committee. The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.
- Joel Winett will follow up on articles passed during the last two years that call for a report to be given to town meeting and no report received.

There was a motion by Joel Winett and second by Michael Berardi to adjourn at 9:35 PM. The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Chute, Clerk

